



# SITUATION REPORT #154



**INCIDENT NAME:** Walla Walla County COVID-19 UNIFIED COMMAND

DATE: March 30, 2021	TIME: 14:00 Information is updated at 2pm daily	MISSION #20-0265
----------------------	--	------------------

**AFFECTED AREA:** Walla Walla, Washington

**CURRENT SITUATION:** COVID-19 Surveillance, Monitoring & Case Investigation/Contact Tracing

2019 Novel Coronavirus Outbreak (COVID-19) Walla Walla County Residents -	Number
Total Confirmed Cases	4857
Recovered	4760
Deaths	64
In-County Residents – Hospitalized Regional Healthcare by Providence St. Mary Medical Center	0
Out-of-County Residents – Hospitalized Regional Healthcare by Providence St. Mary Medical Center	0
Tests Submitted –	Number
Positivity Rate Walla Walla County for week ending 3/27/2021	2.4%
Confirmed Cases by Community of Residence	Number
Burbank/Wallula	258
College Place	605
Dixie	22
Prescott	120
Touchet/Lowden	86
Waitsburg	72
Walla Walla	3694
Total	4857



# SITUATION REPORT #154



Confirmed Cases by Age		Number
Under 20		657
20-39		2017
40-59		1395
60-79		608
Over 80		180
Confirmed Cases by Gender		Number
Female		2008
Male		2849
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>4857</b>

## REGION 8 PHEPR:

Region 8 PHEPR staff is supporting WWCDCH from their EOC. Next call scheduled for 2/10 3:00-4:00

## COMMUNITY MITIGATION MEASURES:

DCH in contact with positive cases, all close contacts on home isolation under daily symptom watch.

- DCH, Providence and Community Partners are holding Mass Vaccination Clinics at the Walla Walla County Fairgrounds
- DCH has hired a nurse, a Communications Coordinator and 2 case investigators
- DCH Partnering with Population Health and Whitman College students on 'what to do while waiting for results of testing and how to reduce transmission risk'
- DCH working with businesses and Long-term Care facilities on containment of outbreaks which includes testing, contact tracing and educational information
- DCH and Providence agreement signed to provide isolation and quarantine facilities
- DCH attending Covid Vaccine planning meetings with DOH and Providence
- DCH increased staff capacity for case monitoring and contact tracing to be in compliance with variance applications
- DCH continues work surrounding behavioral health (mental health, substance use) and the coronavirus
- Providence Urgent Care Drive-thru testing operational for those with between 7am-6pm daily
- Walla Walla County Unified Command holding Key Stakeholder calls at 9 am Monday and Thursday
- DCH CD call flu, respiratory illness, COVID-19; next call will be Tuesday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>
- DCH attending M-Th DOH-Epi to Epi call for LHJ's
- DCH WIC Nutrition benefits continuing to ensure food security for families; completed by telephone consulting and online benefit issuance

## EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:



# SITUATION REPORT #154

- The Walla Walla County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) has downgraded to Level 2, Limited Operations, effective 05/28/2020 as of 0800.
- As of 03/24/2020 Walla Walla County Emergency Management continues to work remotely in order to limit exposure that might affect 911 and dispatch personnel who share the facility.
- The Walla Walla County Commissioners signed a Declaration of Emergency, effective 3/13/20 at 2 PM.
- The City of Walla Walla signed a Declaration of Emergency, effective 3/17/20, extended on 4/8/20.
- The City of College Place signed a Declaration of Emergency, effective 3/17/20, extended 6/9/20.
- The City of Waitsburg signed a Declaration of Emergency, effective 3/18/20.
- The Port of Walla Walla signed a Declaration of Emergency, effective 3/19/20, extended 5/28/20.
- The City of Prescott signed a Declaration of Emergency Effective 3/19/20.
- Walla Walla County remains in modified operations/access during regular business to certain county departments.
- Remains in a Unified Command with Walla Walla County Department of Community Health. Unified Command was established 3/13/20 at 2 PM.
- Washington State Emergency Management is now requesting that all Tier 1 priorities be consolidated into a single order. Long Term Care facilities are now considered to be part of the Tier 1 priority, with further changes expected. Tier 2-4 priorities will be consolidated in a 2<sup>nd</sup> request. Next request period will be for the week beginning 03/29/21
- PPE tier allocation is changed beginning June 5, 2020, to allow Tier 1 requestors to build on hand supplies to levels sufficient for 14-21 days.

## 1. Outstanding Resource Requests

WA State Tracking Number	Request Date	Agency	Current Status
No Requests Pending.			

**March 30, 2021**

## 2. Effective Strategies and Successes

- Businesses have benefited from funding that has been distributed.
- Providence St. Mary Medical Center (PSMMC) stated that previous experience gained in working with Walla Walla County Department of Community Health (DCH) and other partners on Flu vaccinations have had a significant positive impact on the current vaccine administration.
- Equity Task Force rollout has been successful.
- The partnership between all the Walla Walla County response agencies has worked well.

## 3. Risks and challenges

- **COVID-19 Cases**
  - Total Confirmed Cases: 4,857



# SITUATION REPORT #154

- ❖ Recovered: 4,760
- ❖ Deaths 64
- ❖ Active: 33
  - Isolation and hospitalization numbers unknown as PSMCMC was not on Command Team Meeting call.

➤ Washington State Penitentiary (WSP) – included in numbers above):

- ❖ Incarcerated active: 0
- ❖ Staff active: 0

➤ Positivity Rate 2.4%, as of 3/27/21

- **Phase 3 Metrics**

- New cases: 3/16 to 3/29 - 59 cases per 100K (14 days)
- Hospitalizations: 3/24 to 3/30 – 2 hospitalizations per 100K (7 days)

- Concerns about effects of COVID vaccine.
- Coordinated communication of mass vaccination planning effort to the public.
- Confusion about universal masking requirements. No change to universal masking in healthcare.
- Local businesses did not anticipate the number of people that would come in without a mask and need one. Chamber of Commerce is working to provide masks.
- Confusion remains about who is eligible and who is not eligible for vaccine. Residents are no longer required to use Phase Finder but that does not mean that everyone is eligible.

#### 4. Future operational plans (24, 48, and 72 hours out)

- Walla Walla County Emergency Management (WWEM) is activated at **Level 2 – Limited Operations** (virtual, with no face-to-face contact).
- WWEM acting as liaison to Washington National Guard (WNG).
- Coordination and communication with Unified Area Command State Emergency Operations Center (UAC SEOC). Unified Command SEOC conference call is weekly, on Thursdays.
- Monitor WebEOC Resource Tracker for delivery of supplies from Washington State to Walla Walla County.
- WWEM submission of new resource requests on WebEOC.
- WWEM distribution of resources.
- WWEM will continue to manage immunization clinic volunteers under the Washington State Emergency Worker Program.
- Walla Walla University Center for Humanitarian Engagement assisting PSMCMC with vaccination clinic volunteer scheduling using the Walla Walla Volunteer Corps [website](#).
- DCH weekend staffing.
- PSMCMC maintaining daily sit reports.
- EMS providers tracking PPE use with CDC PPE Burn Rate Calculator.
- Continue work with the media.
- DCH case investigation/contact tracing of positive cases.
- DCH and PSMCMC are continuing to work with Washington State Department of Corrections for cases at Washington State Penitentiary.
- LTC facilities continue to test based on CMS requirements to test if positivity rate is over 5%.



# SITUATION REPORT #154

- DCH messaging emphasizing the importance of social distancing, masking, limiting gatherings. Messaging around safety of COVID19 vaccine, encouraging residents to participate in getting their COVID immunizations.
- Providence Urgent Care drive-through hours are currently 0700-1600. They will be discontinuing drive-through COVID testing, effective April 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Chamber of Commerce is distributing PPE to hotels and other businesses.
- High demand for Working Washington Phase 4 grant which opened on Monday.
- LTC facilities training with DOH today on transition from vaccinating residents to working with new employees.
- LTC facilities may need mobile vaccine team assistance. Some residents are bed-bound and cannot get out of bed to be transported to mass immunization site.
- Public schools are working on the 3-ft social distance recommendations. Expect school to return to full in-person learning in the new few weeks.
- VAMC vaccinations are slowing down. Vaccinating on Wednesdays only.
- VAMC vaccine Clinic in Richland on April 3. Any veteran with an honorable discharge, and their spouse, is eligible for vaccine.
- Walla Walla County Fairgrounds mass vaccination clinics on March 31 and April 3.
- City of College Place is planning on doing the Farmers Market this summer at Lyon's Park.
- WWEM will confirm with State EOC that there are 2,000 employed in food service.

**Prepared By:** Liz Jessee & Patrick Purcell, Emergency Management Coordinator, 509-524-2901 or ppurcell@co.walla-walla.wa.us

## COMMUNICATIONS:

- Social Media/PIO/Media Requests: [eocpio@co.walla-walla.wa.us](mailto:eocpio@co.walla-walla.wa.us)

**ANTICIPATED NEEDS:** Contact tracing and disease investigation

## WHERE TO FIND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

### Phone Assistance:

- Washington State Department of Health: [800-525-0127](tel:800-525-0127), press #
- Walla Walla County Community Health Information line: [509-524-2647](tel:509-524-2647)

### Web Site Information:

- DCH <https://www.covidwwc.com/walla-walla-county>
- OHA Emerging Respiratory Disease page: [www.healthoregon.org/coronavirus](http://www.healthoregon.org/coronavirus)
- Washington Department of Health: <https://www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/Coronavirus>
- CDC COVID-19 page: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
- CDC travel notice: <https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/notices>



# SITUATION REPORT #154

- WHO page: <https://www.who.int/westernpacific/emergencies/novel-coronavirus>

**INCIDENT INFORMATION:** [eocpio@co.walla-walla.wa.us](mailto:eocpio@co.walla-walla.wa.us) 509-524-2916

**PREPARED BY:** Kara Breymeyer, Jodi Ferguson, Local Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, WWCDCH – 509-524-2657 [jferguson@co.walla-walla.wa.us](mailto:jferguson@co.walla-walla.wa.us)

**DISTRIBUTED TO:** Walla Walla County BOCC & Clerk of the Board; Providence St. Mary Medical Center Staff, Region 8 PHEPR-RERC, Benton-Franklin Health District, Umatilla Co. LHJ Director, Walla Walla County EMD and EMS & MPD, WA DOH Duty Officer, WA DOH LOFR; Klickitat LERC; Yakima LERC; Benton-Franklin LERC; Columbia Co. Director; REDi HCC, Columbia Co. LHJ, City of Walla Walla, City of College Place, City of Waitsburg, McMorris-Rogers Rep. Port of Walla Walla, and Health Office